

INOUE, Daniel K. (Democrat)
Senior Senator from Hawaii
Elected (1962) to US Senate; Reelected
Present term expires January 2005



BACKGROUND

Born: Honolulu, Hawaii - 7 September 1924

Home: Honolulu, Hawaii

Marital status: Married (Margaret) - 1 son

Religion: Methodist

Education: U of Hawaii, B.A. 1950; George Washington U Law School, J.D. 1952

Military: US Army, 1943-7; battlefield commission, 2ndLt; served with 442nd Infantry;
DSC/Bronze Star/Purple Heart. Lost right arm in combat during World War II; retired
Captain; Won Congressional Medal of Honor in 2000 for his bravery.

Profession: Attorney

Political: Hawaiian Territorial House, majority leader, 1954-8; Territorial Senate, 1958-9. Elected Hawaii's 1st US Rep, 28Jul59. In 1962 succeeded Sen Oren E. Long (D), who retired. Reelected in 1992 with 57% of the vote. Reelected in 1998 with 79% of the vote.

Sen Inoué is liberal on economic-social issues, more conservative in foreign policy matters.

In 107th Congress, supported an increase of \$1.4B for defense above the President's request for FY01 supplemental approps. Termed "very questionable" the cannibalization of spare parts. Disapproved of a DoD proposal to shift some Pacific Command military authority to the East Coast as part of a beefed-up homeland defense. Assured Sen Landrieu (D-LA) that there was sufficient funding within AF appropriations for FY02 & 03 to cover the rebuilding of the fire-damaged 8th AF HQ's at Barksdale AFB. Supported full funding for the F-22 and for 15 C-17's. Intro S. 38, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces. Opposed a Bond amdt (subsequently withdrawn) that sought to increase defense spending by \$1.42B; stated that it was important that Congress demonstrate fiscal restraint by avoiding any emergency spending in the supplemental bill. Drew attention to pertinent provisions in the emergency supplemental including quality of life items for military personnel, \$106.5B for readiness and related programs, a cap on legislative liaison personnel which he said the Sec/Def has indicated are excessive, and authority to lease tankers to replace the aging KC-135 fleet. Offering "unqualified support" for the conference report, noted that it provided for four C-130's for the Air National Guard and full funds the requirements for the F-22, the Joint Strike Fighter, and the F/A-18. Strongly endorsed the leasing authority which he said allows us to help assist commercial airline manufacturers while also solving a long-term problem for the Air Force. During debate on the FY 03 DoD Appns, emphasized the number one priority of meeting the needs of the men and women in uniform. Regarding a possible war in Iraq, remarked "We owe it to our forces in the field...to ensure that we have done everything possible to avert conflict before we ask them to make the supreme sacrifice....I want to support the President, but I want to make certain my support is not misplaced."

Additional: Member, Senate Air Force Caucus

AF Bases: Hickam AFB; Minor Bases & Reserve Forces

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS – Subc on Defense – ranking; Military Construction

COMMERCE; SCIENCE AND TRANS – Subc on Surface Trans and Merchant Marine - ranking

INDIAN AFFAIRS – Vice Chairman

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION